

Claims 36-79 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 has been canceled.

The subject matter of the claims is fully supported by the originally filed application, namely, U.S. Serial No. 07/647,464 filed January 28, 1991, in which inventors Lilip Lau and William Hartigan were the named inventors. Subsequently, a continuation-in-part application (U.S. Serial No. 08/085,959) was filed in which a third inventor, Farhad Khosravi, was added as an inventor. Since the subject matter of the present claims is supported by the original application naming Messrs. Lau and Hartigan as inventors, Mr. Khosravi is not a named inventor on the present application. It is believed that no correction of inventorship is necessary under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b), however, if the Examiner feels inventorship correction is required, applicants will file the necessary petition to correct inventorship.

Since the subject matter of the claims is fully supported by the originally filed application U.S. Serial No. 07,647,464, the specification has been amended to delete the new matter presented in U.S. Serial No. 08/085,959 filed July 6, 1993. The new matter which was the subject of the continuation-in-part application related primarily to an elastic nose cone attached to the distal end of catheter. The nose cone invention is not part of the presently claimed invention. With the present amendments to the specification, it is believed that the specification (excluding the Abstract and claims) is substantially the same as the originally filed U.S. Serial No. 07/647,464 filed January 28, 1991.

It also is noted that the drawing figures filed in this application are being substituted with the drawing figures filed in the originally filed application (U.S. Serial No. 07/647,464). The drawing figures being replaced depict the nose cone (e.g., Figs. 1 and 2) which again is not part of the claimed invention.

It is believed that the pending claims are patentable over the art and it is respectfully requested that early allowance be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: _____
John S. Nagy
Registration No. 30,664

JSN:jeb

10877 Wilshire Boulevard, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, California 90024
(310) 824-5555